

PTO/SB/30 (09-03)

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**REQUEST FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
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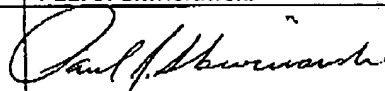
Application Number	09/975,934
Filing Date	15 October 2001
First Named Inventor	Hajime AKIMOTO et al.
Group Art Unit	2674
Examiner Name	R. Liang
Attorney Docket Number	520.36114CX1

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.
Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR § 1.114 does not apply to any utility or patent application filed prior to 8 June 1995, or to any design application. See instruction sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO).

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR §1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously-filed unentered Amendments and Amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless Applicant instructs otherwise. If Applicant does not wish to have any previously-filed unentered Amendment(s) entered, Applicant must request non-entry of such Amendment(s).
- a. ☐ Previously submitted. (If a final Office Action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office Action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.)
- i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- ii. ☐ Other: 03/24/2004 AWONDAF1 00000016 09975934
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment 01 FC:1801
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) 02 FC:1202
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/Form PTO-1449/Reference(s)
- iv. ☐ Petition For Extension Of Time Under 37 CFR §1.136 (____ Months)
- v. ☐ Other: _____
2. **Miscellaneous**
- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR §1.103(c) for a period of ____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other: _____
3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR. §1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR §1.114 when RCE is filed.
- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge **DEFICIENCIES ONLY** in the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to ATSK Deposit Account No. 01-2135
- i. ☒ RCE Fee required under 37 CFR § 1.17(e)/Additional Claims Fee(s) (Fee Code(s) 1801/1202)
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fees (37 CFR §§ 1.136 and 1.17) (Fee Code _____)
- iii. ☐ Other: _____ (Fee Code _____)
- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ ____ enclosed.
- c. ☒ Credit Card Payment Form PTO-2038.

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Provide credit card information and authorization on Form PTO-2308.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Paul J. Skwlerawski	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	32,173
Signature		Date	22 March 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner For Patents, Mail Stop RCE, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, on the date shown below.

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Signature			

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR §1.114. This information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 USC §122 and 37 CFR §1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, POB 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, POB 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. If you need assistance, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.